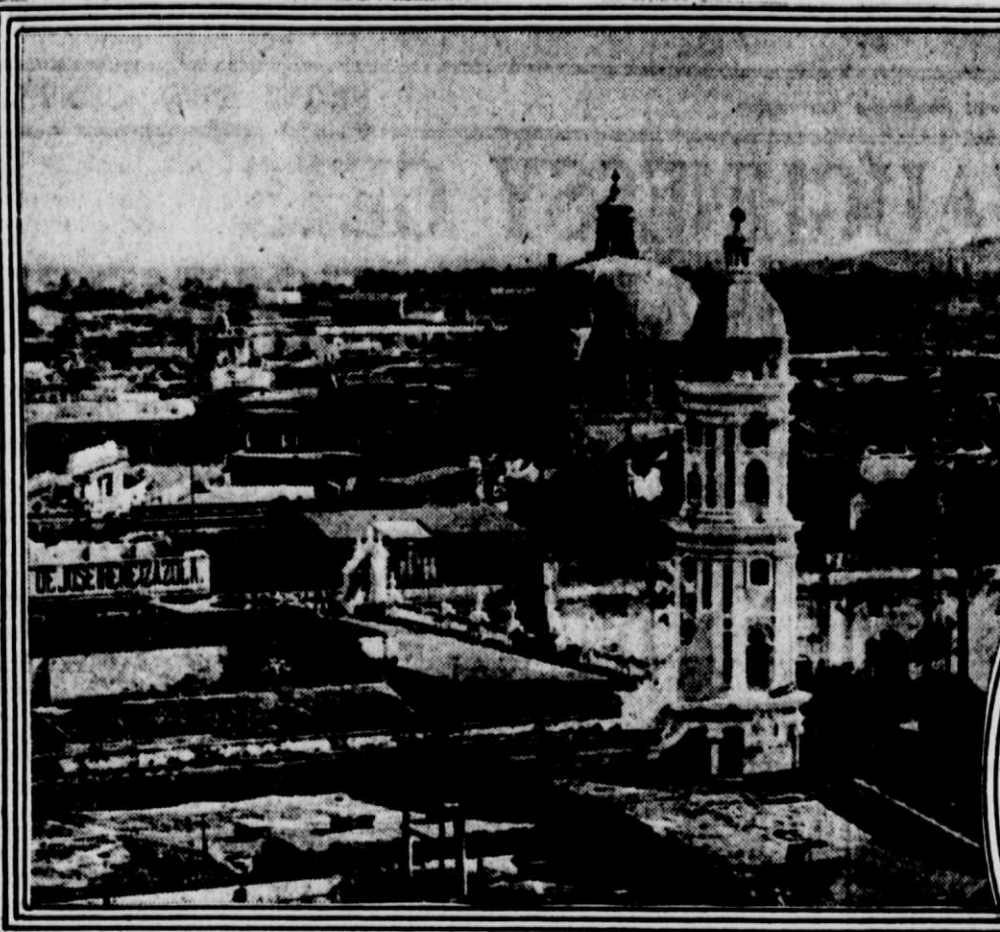


# U. S. MARINES DO POLICE DUTY IN STREETS OF VERA CRUZ



VIEW OF VERA CRUZ SHOWING THE CATHEDRAL AND THE NATIONAL PALACE. © UNDERWOOD & UNDERWOOD.

to levy war against it; considering also that the hostile acts already accomplished exceed those demanded by equity for the desired end, which may be considered as satisfied; I interpret the sentiment of the great majority of Mexican people which is so jealous of its rights and respectful of foreign rights, and I invite you to suspend the hostile acts already initiated, ordering your forces to evacuate all places which they now hold in their power in the port of Vera Cruz and to formulate before the Constitutional Government, which I represent, as constitutional Governor of the State of Coahuila and first chief of the Constitutional army, the demand on the part of the United States for reparation for the acts which recently originated at the port of Tampico, in the security, that the demand will be considered in a spirit of elevated justice and conciliation.

"The constitutional Governor of the State of Coahuila and first chief of the Constitutional army, V. CARRANZA."

It is known that Gen. Villa fully approves the message.

## Villa's Napoleonic Visions.

This means that it represents 12,000 armed Mexican rebels. Many believe that Villa, flushed by his victories against Huerta's troops and because of the praise heaped upon him for his generalship and military ability, having visions of becoming an American Napoleon, dictated a large part of the message.

It is declared that the first message from Carranza sent here for translation was much stronger than the one finally transmitted to President Wilson. The first was a virtual declaration of war against the United States. It is declared, but Roberto Pesqueira, Carranza's representative here, returned it to Chihuahua with suggested changes, which Carranza complied with.

The seriousness of the situation becomes apparent when it is understood that there are 2,000 miles of Mexican-American border with many cities on the international line. The line holds all Mexican ports opposite this territory. El Paso is the largest, but Laredo, Eagle Pass, Brownsville, Del Rio and several other towns of considerable size lie just across the border from the Mexican ports held by the rebels. Westward from here Douglas, Nogales and Naco in Arizona are on the line.

## Guarding Prisoners.

Practically all the towns near the border have large populations of Mexicans, many of them Huerta sympathizers who are refugees from the rebels. In the American border towns at least half the population is Mexican. With the influx of refugees this has been largely increased. El Paso has more United States troops than any other border town and the total is less than 2,500. Four thousand Federal prisoners are in a bull pen near El Paso under guard. It requires a regiment of United States troops to guard them, and it is realized that if they should make a rush, while many would be killed, several thousand could escape. There are rumors that arms are located so that they could be seized if the troops were liberated.

In almost all of these border towns one charge of dynamite could wreck the electric plant or the waterworks system and throw the city into confusion. There are rumors of many contemplated acts by the Mexicans, but as yet no indication of open ill feeling.

It is believed, however, that if the embargo is replaced on arms the rebels will assume that the United States means to make war on all of Mexico and that trouble cannot long be prevented. The Americans realize that in view of the position Carranza has taken the embargo is not only possible but probable.

It is believed here that the question of restoring the embargo on arms may be decided by the attitude of Carranza.

## RESPECT AMERICANS, IS HUERTA'S ORDER

Mexico City Is Orderly Despite Intense Excitement of the Inhabitants—Government and People Not to Hold Foreign Residents Responsible.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.  
MEXICO CITY, April 21 (Tuesday). (Delayed in transmission).—The Government organ, *El Imperial*, publishes the following in an extra edition under a seven column head:

"Blood has flowed in Vera Cruz. Yankees have been killed, the American sailors have landed and our troops have fired. They have orders to resist for only a short time and then fall back, as the city is not in condition for defence.

"At 11 o'clock this morning the North Americans landed and immediately were attacked by the gallant garrison of the port. Our country's soil is profaned by the foreign invader."

The paper goes on to say that this morning a group of sailors landed at Vera Cruz without a declaration of war having been made, without warning or the formality of an ultimatum, as international duties demand. They went to the custom house, the post office and telegraph offices, which they took. Then the Vera Cruz people rose up and attacked the enemy with the forces of Gen. Maass and the garrison, the American warships firing no shots.

## Will Protest to Powers.

According to the paper the Minister of Foreign Relations will send a note of protest against the landing of the Americans to all the foreign legations.

*El Imperial* publishes an official declaration of the Government calling upon all Mexicans to gather around it, and adding:

"Do not forget that the foreigners residing among us now and for some time past are not responsible for the situation created between Mexico and the United States and consequently should be respected.

"During the French intervention in 1864 the Mexican people gave evidence of good judgment by not attacking the Frenchmen who were not connected with the international struggle. The Government of Mexico expects the people to show equal good sense now."

A joint session of Congress is being held this afternoon to discuss the situation. The cable and telegraph lines have not been interrupted, but trains going to Vera Cruz have been commandeered by the Government.

## Americans Bottled Up.

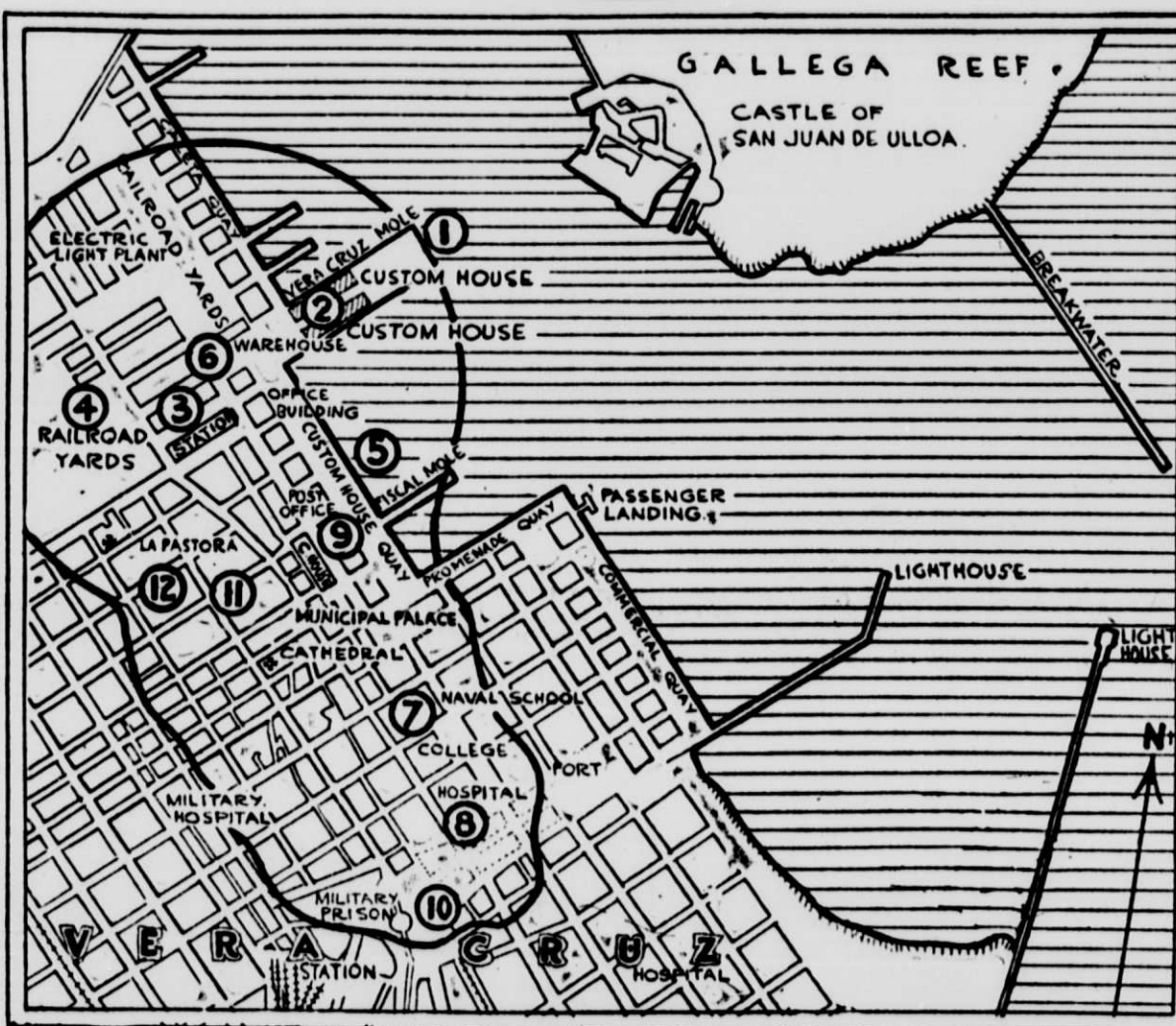
American Charge d'Affaires O'Shaughnessy and all Americans are bottled up here, but there have been no disorders, despite the tremendous excitement. Troops are parading the streets and guards have been stationed in front of the American Embassy and the legations.

Gen. Huerta has assured Charge d'Affaires O'Shaughnessy personally and in the friendliest tone that he and all Americans here would be defended against all attack.

The Mexican Herald will publish tomorrow at Mr. O'Shaughnessy's request a bulletin advising prudence on the part of Americans in Mexico city and conveying to them Gen. Huerta's assurance of safety.

Many American stores are closed. The streets are quiet, soldiers preventing large gatherings of people.

BUSINESS STREET in VERA CRUZ.



Radius of Action of United States Forces in Vera Cruz

- 1—Custom House wharf where forces landed from Prairie and Florida.
- 2—Custom House seized by the marines as soon as they landed.
- 3—Railroad station held by the marines after driving back Mexicans.
- 4—Railroad yards where fighting occurred. Machine guns were used here.
- 5—Government quay and mole, where guns were landed.
- 6—Warehouses partly burned from shells fired by Prairie.
- 7—Naval Academy shelled to dislodge snipers.
- 8—Military Hospital where wounded sailors are.
- 9—Benito Juarez lighthouse destroyed by shell fire.
- 10—Headquarters of Gen. Maass, from which he fled.
- 11—Hotel Diligencias, filled with Americans.
- 12—Place de la Constitution, where Mexicans made a stand.

## MEXICO WILL FIGHT TO END, SAYS HUERTA

Better to Die Fighting Than to Purchase Peace, His Comment.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.  
LONDON, April 23.—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Mexico city, who avowedly favors Huerta, dated his despatch on Tuesday night, says:

"The first news of the fighting at Vera Cruz found everybody incredulous. Including American Charge d'Affaires O'Shaughnessy. This morning when the news was confirmed the people were admirably calm and the city's life continued unchanged but the crowd was serious and silent. There was something imposing in the sudden cold tranquillity. Nothing now can terrify, nothing can shock this unhappy capital, which is accustomed to every form of threat, alarm, battle and misfortune, and is now preparing to fight a new enemy with serene decision which speaks of habit of sacrifice, indifference to life or ruin and despairing pride.

"Mexico will fight to the extreme limit of her power against the North American colossus," said Huerta, this morning. "It is better to die fighting than to purchase peace at the price of national dignity."

## Will Resist to End.

"At 3 o'clock this afternoon the Foreign Office sent to the legations a circular note framed after the result of the deliberations of Congress at Washington had become known. The note summarizes the facts of the negotiations with reference to the Tampico incident, and concludes as follows:

"As the despatch of some American warships to Mexican ports is announced, this Government declares it is disposed to resist any attack by force of arms."

With reference to Vera Cruz the correspondent says the town, being without forts or artillery, was compelled to surrender. He continues:

"The landing was foreseen, but sanguinary resistance will be offered along the road to the capital, which passes over mountains. Gen. Blanquet, the Minister of War, has announced that he will levy en masse all able bodied men who can bear arms.

"Within a few days all labor will cease. Mexico city, depopulated and silent, will await its destiny. All officers of the reserve are hastening to join the colors. The wealthy residents of the capital are organizing to assist in Red Cross work. The federations of railway men, comprising 150,000 members, have offered to incorporate themselves into an army.

"The foreign colonies have held meetings at which their respective Ministers presided and advised the departure of all foreigners from the capital. More than 300 German families left for Vera Cruz this morning. Many Americans remain, strolling about as usual amid the polite indifference of the crowd."

**Foreigners Alarmed.**  
"The Mexican Herald, the American newspaper here, continues publication, although it has lost most of its readers. The legations are being visited by processions of foreigners asking advice and protection in the event of an uprising of the Indians, which is the chief cause of fear. If urgent need arises the foreigners will be concentrated at their respective legations. The Italian legation has already adopted that measure."

"The Mexican Government has taken severe measures for the maintenance of order. It has increased the guard at the American legation, not because it is necessary, but because it was so requested."

The American legation is well armed and has officers to direct its defence.

"Huerta appears to be the calmest man on the continent. His tranquil energy will inspire confidence, animating the preparations and kindling fervent popularity."

A despatch from Mexico city says Gen. Huerta has instructed all the foreign envoys to notify their Governments that "We are fighting at Vera Cruz against the attempt to land American marines."

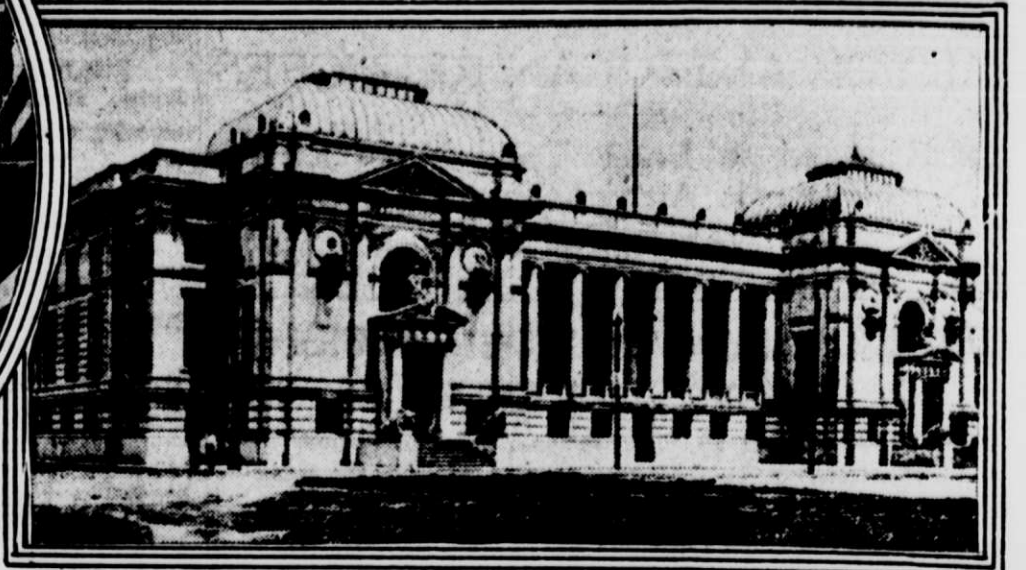
The Daily Mail's Mexico city correspondent, under date of April 21, says:

"The Cabinet decided to-night to promulgate a general amnesty so that all Mexicans may unite in defence of their country."

Francis D. Acland, the Parliamentary



MILITARY BARRACKS in VERA CRUZ.



POST and TELEGRAPH OFFICES, VERA CRUZ. © AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

## Huerta Says He'll Have 40,000 Men

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

MEXICO CITY, April 22

GEN. HUERTA has given out the following statement to the press:

"Mexico is defending not only her national sovereignty but that of all Latin America as well. This is not a war between the Mexican and American peoples but between Mexico and the Government of the United States, which is controlled by men who have forced this situation upon us in spite of our efforts to the contrary. We shall have 400,000 men in the field in twenty days.

"In the port of Vera Cruz we are sustaining with arms the national honor. The outrage which the Yankee Government is committing against a free people, as the people of this republic are and always will be, will pass into history and will put Mexico and the Government of the United States each in the place where it belongs."

"HUERTA."

Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, answering a question in the House of Commons yesterday afternoon regarding the murder of William S. Benton in Mexico, gave the Government view of the affair as based on the inquiries of British Consul Perceval, who was sent from Galveston to investigate the murder. Mr. Acland said Benton had been stabbed and Gen. Villa, leader of the rebels, was responsible, although he may not have been the man who wielded the knife. The body, he said, had possibly been burned.

Mr. Acland added that, although it was impossible for the Government to take any action at present, it was not intended to let the matter rest. Action would be taken as soon as it was able to determine what steps would be practicable.

SEE WAR OF CONQUEST.

London Papers Say President Wilson Has Illusory Hope.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, April 23.—The opinion of the morning papers seems to be that President Wilson's idea of confining the operations to Vera Cruz is illusory. The reasons for this opinion are set forth with varying degrees of positiveness, but the general view is that war has begun and that the United States is "up against" the biggest foreign adventure in its history.

The war, in the view of some, must become a war of conquest or in any event involve the task of pacifying and stabilizing Mexico. Perhaps the most striking if not the weightiest comment is that of the pacifist humanitarian *Daily News and Leader*, which regards President Wilson as having met a serious check because the dominant sentiment in Congress is obviously for war against Mexico, and not merely the chastisement of Huerta. The *News* gravely lectures President Wilson for allowing things to have come to such a perilous pass and thinks the whole situation extremely dark.

MEXICO CITY IS QUIET.

Huerta Government in Complete Control.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, April 23.—The correspondent of the Times at Mexico city, cabling yesterday, says that the Mexican Government is in complete control. The city is quiet and well protected, but business is paralyzed. A refugees' train, escorted by Federal troops, leaves to-night to convey foreigners to Vera Cruz. The Mexicans are calm, considering the circumstances.

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